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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

TOMOKI SUEMASA, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 09/926,236

FILED: SEPTEMBER 28, 2001

FOR: PLASMA TREATMENT  
APPARATUS

: EXAMINER: CROWELL, A.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1763

**GROUP 1700**

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AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 4 as shown in clean form below. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached.

1. (Amended) A plasma treatment apparatus comprising:

- an airtight treatment chamber which is conductive;
- a lower electrode including a mount portion on which an object is to be mounted, the lower electrode being movable up and down in the treatment chamber;
- a power supply system to supply high-frequency power to the lower electrode;
- an elevator mechanism to move the lower electrode up and down;
- a conductive wall body substantially surrounding the elevator mechanism in close proximity and forming a path reaching to a floor portion of the treatment chamber, the conductive wall body being fixed to the conductive chamber.